



United Nations

FCCC/SBI/2016/11

Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

Distr.: General  
22 August 2016

Original: English

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## Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Forty-fifth session

Marrakech, 7–14 November 2016

Item X of the provisional agenda

## The 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment

### Summary report by the secretariat

#### *Summary*

The 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment was held during the forty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, on 18 and 19 May 2016. Representatives of Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector, media and other relevant stakeholders shared best practices and lessons learned regarding public awareness, public participation and public access to information in relation to climate change and international cooperation on those matters.

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## I. Introduction

### A. Background and mandate

1. Reaffirming the importance of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information in relation to climate change and international cooperation on those matters for achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention and for the effective implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions, the Conference of the Parties (COP), at its eighteenth session, adopted the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention.<sup>1</sup>
2. In addition, the COP requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to enhance the work on Article 6 of the Convention by organizing an annual in-session dialogue with the participation of Parties, representatives of relevant bodies established under the Convention and relevant experts, practitioners and stakeholders to share their experiences and exchange ideas, best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of the Doha work programme.<sup>2</sup>
3. The COP decided that, for the purpose of organizing the Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment,<sup>3</sup> the six elements of Article 6 of the Convention would be clustered into two focal areas, with the consideration of the two areas alternating on an annual basis. The first focal area consists of education and training and the second of public awareness, public participation and public access to information. International cooperation is considered to be a cross-cutting theme of both focal areas.<sup>4</sup>
4. The COP requested the secretariat to prepare a summary report on every meeting of the dialogue.<sup>5</sup>

### B. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

5. The SBI may wish to consider the information contained in this report with a view to determining appropriate actions arising from it.

## II. Proceedings

6. The 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment (hereinafter referred to as the Dialogue) took place on 18 and 19 May 2016, during SBI 44. The focus was on the second focal area referred to in paragraph 3 above: public awareness, public participation and public access to information in relation to climate change and international cooperation on those matters.
7. More than 100 representatives of Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, media and other relevant

<sup>1</sup> Decision 15/CP.18, preamble and paragraph 1.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 15/CP.18, paragraph 9.

<sup>3</sup> As part of the intermediate review of the Doha work programme, SBI 44 recommended that efforts related to the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention be referred to as Action for Climate Empowerment in order to find a way of referring to Article 6 in everyday conversation that everyone can understand better (see document FCCC/SBI/2016/8/Add.1, paragraph 14 of the draft decision titled “Improving the effectiveness of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention”).

<sup>4</sup> Decision 15/CP.18, paragraph 10.

<sup>5</sup> Decision 15/CP.18, paragraph 12.

stakeholders shared best practices and lessons learned regarding public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation on those matters.

8. Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow, Chair of the SBI, presided over the meeting. He was supported by the facilitator of the Dialogue, Ms. Marie Jaudet, Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) national focal point for France.

9. The meeting was organized into two three-hour working sessions, focusing on:

(a) Public awareness and international cooperation thereon;

(b) Public participation, public access to information and international cooperation thereon.

10. Each working session started with a series of presentations, followed by working group discussions on key topics related to public awareness and public participation. The working groups were facilitated by climate change experts from various organizations as well as by representatives of the United Nations Alliance on Climate Change, Education, Training and Public Awareness.<sup>6</sup>

11. The agenda for the meeting is contained in the annex. All presentations are available on the UNFCCC website.<sup>7</sup> A summary video of the two-day Dialogue is available on the UNFCCC YouTube channel.<sup>8</sup>

### **III. Challenges and opportunities**

#### **A. Opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment**

12. The meeting was opened by the SBI Chair, who welcomed the participants to the Dialogue. He stressed that public awareness, public participation and public access to information are fundamental for achieving climate-resilient and low-emission development. He stated that ACE is about transforming values and behaviours, fostering access to information and, ultimately, empowering people to implement climate solutions. He mentioned that the information presented by the speakers at the Dialogue, along with the input provided during the working group sessions, would contribute to the intermediate review of the Doha work programme. He invited Ms. Jaudet to facilitate the two working sessions of the Dialogue on his behalf.

13. Mr. Nick Nuttall made welcoming remarks on behalf of the UNFCCC secretariat. He said that he felt encouraged by the name change to ACE, which it reflects the new global focus on climate action as Parties strive to implement the Paris Agreement. He explained that implementing the Paris Agreement will require action on climate change in every sector and in every country, which will fundamentally transform social and economic growth. Although many people think of this transformation at the society-wide or economy-wide level, Mr. Nuttall stressed that it also affects individuals. Therefore, ACE should do exactly what it says: empower people to be part of climate change solutions. He highlighted the importance of the Dialogue, which, in his view, holds great potential to help boost broad support for the rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement. He concluded by encouraging all participants to learn from the experiences of others and to use this to bring greater awareness of and mobilization on climate change back home to their countries.

<sup>6</sup> See

<[http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_and\\_support/education\\_and\\_outreach/education\\_and\\_training/items/8958.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/education_and_training/items/8958.php)>.

<sup>7</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_and\\_support/education\\_and\\_outreach/dialogues/items/9414.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/dialogues/items/9414.php)>.

<sup>8</sup> <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMHIcd5tYqc>>.

14. Ms. Jaudet briefed the participants on the outline and objectives of the Dialogue. She then played two short videos by the winners of the 2015 Global Youth Video Competition on climate change,<sup>9</sup> held in the run-up to COP 21. She said that the video competition proved that young people are key players in implementing innovative climate solutions.

15. Ms. Jaudet then introduced the Dialogue's keynote speaker, Mr. Bertrand Piccard, Chief Executive Officer of Solar Impulse<sup>10</sup> and United Nations Environment Programme Goodwill Ambassador. At the time of the Dialogue, Mr. Piccard was part of a two-man team flying around the world in a solar-powered airplane to promote clean technologies. He delivered a video address from a stop on the solar-powered flight. He spoke about how every person can be part of the solution to address climate change. A common mistake is to communicate climate change as a problem and focus on its dramatic impacts. Such negative messaging only serves to disempower people and discourage them from taking action. Instead, Mr. Piccard strongly recommended moving the focus of climate communications to the opportunities that come from shifting to a cleaner future (e.g. investing in renewable energy will create new jobs and better quality of life). He concluded with a message of hope and optimism: that every person can contribute to climate solutions in their family, home, workplace and country.

## B. Session I: public awareness and international cooperation thereon

### 1. Presentations

16. The session started with a series of presentations focused on good practices and lessons learned regarding public awareness and international cooperation thereon. A representative of the Italian National Olympic Committee and a representative of World Expo Milano 2015 delivered a joint presentation on how the expo was a positive experience of raising public awareness of climate change. The representative of the Italian National Olympic Committee stressed the value of raising awareness of climate change issues. Sport, through education campaigns, can act as a vehicle to raise public awareness of the importance of environmental protection and sustainability. It can also, through social mobilization, increase collaboration among countries and promote the adoption of good practices and sustainable behaviours. The representative of World Expo Milano 2015 presented her experience in raising global awareness of sustainability issues at the massive event, which brought together 140 countries and 20 million visitors from around the world. The expo, under the theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life", featured exhibitions and debates, policy meetings and cultural events. It was certified according to the criteria set by the International Organization for Standardization for sustainable event management. Among the practices adopted to reduce the carbon footprint were the separation of solid waste and recycling of all material recovered, green procurement for furniture and packaging, energy efficiency in buildings and lighting, and offsetting 100 per cent of the carbon dioxide emissions. As a result, the event was able to recycle 18 million plastic bottles and prevent 50 t food waste.

17. A representative of Costa Rica reported on its carbon neutrality programme (C-Neutral),<sup>11</sup> established in 2007. The programme targets organizations and companies as part of the country's wider efforts to become the world's first carbon-neutral nation by 2021. C-Neutral began with a process led by the Ministry of the Environment of Costa Rica

<sup>9</sup> See <<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/winners-of-cop21-youth-climate-video-competition-announced>>.

<sup>10</sup> See <<https://www.solarimpulse.com/eng>>.

<sup>11</sup> See <<http://www.cambioclimaticocr.com/2012-05-22-19-47-24/programas/programa-pais>>.

to establish rules and standards required for organizations to receive the official C-Neutral label. A public awareness campaign to raise the profile of C-Neutral resulted in increasing the interest of the public and private sectors in taking part in the programme. So far, 56 organizations have received the official C-Neutral label. Additionally, large enterprises are now collaborating with local governments through public-private partnerships to support the implementation of the C-Neutral programme.

18. A representative of the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) from India presented on Science Express Climate Action,<sup>12</sup> which is a mobile exhibition on climate change travelling by train through India. The train includes eight coaches of exhibits and all of the materials are translated into 15 Indian languages. The exhibition has reached 2.3 million visitors, including 600,000 students from 6,300 schools in India. In addition to the mobile exhibition, India has established several programmes to raise awareness of climate change. For instance, the Government of India has implemented a campaign that provides small grants to 12,000 NGOs to create climate awareness activities in their regions. There is also a labelling programme for electric goods to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns.

19. A representative of Deutsche Welle presented on the experience of using radio as a tool to raise awareness of climate change issues. In 2010 he founded Green Radio World,<sup>13</sup> which is an online radio programme with a network of radio correspondents across sub-Saharan Africa. The correspondents share best practices in climate change adaptation in Africa, where radio broadcasts in local languages are a lifeline to the communities. Radio remains the best way to reach rural audiences, such as farmers, and to enable them to share their best practices in sustainable land management. Green Radio World has more than 70 journalists working in 18 African countries. To date, it has organized 10 radio training workshops for 125 journalists and broadcasters and provided documents on best practices in adaptation and land management to support rural radio stations in African countries. Furthermore, the materials are translated into local languages in order to reach local listeners.

20. A representative of youth NGOs (YOUNGOs)<sup>14</sup> presented on how young people are not just raising awareness but also empowering people to take action on climate change. As the UNFCCC youth constituency, YOUNGOs enables young people from different organizations and countries to work together. The presenter recommended that Parties establish a youth delegation programme that would allow young people to be part of their official delegations at future sessions of the COP. Such a programme could enhance youth engagement and provide access to the financial resources needed for them to attend UNFCCC sessions. He also stressed the need for a youth pavilion at sessions of the COP as a platform to raise awareness and to showcase best practices among youth all over the world.

21. A representative of the World Bank Group's Connect4Climate initiative presented on the climate change awareness raising art installation "Fiat Lux: Illuminating Our Common Home".<sup>15</sup> It was inspired by the Pope's encyclical "Laudato Si: On Care For Our Common Home", which refers to the themes of climate change, human dignity and Earth's living creatures. Fiat Lux projected images of nature, including people, animals and places, onto the Vatican in Rome last year. The visual display potentially reached billions of people through media coverage. The presenter underlined the importance of establishing partnerships with various stakeholders for making this project a reality.

<sup>12</sup> See <<http://www.scienceexpress.in>>.

<sup>13</sup> See <<http://greenradio-world.org>>.

<sup>14</sup> See <[http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_and\\_support/education\\_and\\_outreach/youth/items/8968.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/youth/items/8968.php)>.

<sup>15</sup> See <<http://ourcommonhome.world>>.

22. A representative of the World Wide Fund for Nature presented on the global campaign Earth Hour.<sup>16</sup> Earth Hour has been under way for 10 years, making it one of the longest-running climate change campaigns in the world. It inspires and empowers millions of people around the world to make the switch from passive bystanders to active participants in global efforts to fight climate change. Earth Hour is held in 178 countries annually, encouraging individuals, communities, households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one hour as a symbol of their commitment to saving the planet. In 2016 the campaign reached more than 2.5 billion people. The key ingredient in Earth Hour's recipe for success is a simple, easy-to-understand message about climate change, which is easily accessible online or in printed format sent directly to communities. The presenter provided concrete examples of activities organized during Earth Hour, such as activities for reforestation and recycling, digital petitions for climate-friendly policy and online campaigns.

23. A representative of Ben & Jerry's presented on the company's climate change campaign, Save Our Swirled, which is implemented in partnership with the civil-society organization Avaaz.<sup>17</sup> The private sector has an important role to play when it comes to climate change action. The company has built its climate response on the basis of three pillars: (1) implementing climate-friendly practices within the company and producing climate-neutral products; (2) engaging with local decision makers and participating in United Nations Climate Change Conferences; and (3) building a social movement to mobilize climate action. Through its Save Our Swirled campaign, Ben & Jerry's encouraged its customers in more than 35 countries to take action in the lead-up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris. The campaign included a petition calling for a global shift to 100 per cent clean energy by 2050 and a complete phase-out of carbon pollution. The campaign also included an animated video calling on world leaders to keep global temperature rise under 2 °C, which received more than 6 million views on Facebook.

24. A representative of Conservation International presented on its successful Nature is Speaking campaign,<sup>18</sup> which includes a series of award-winning videos narrated by celebrities. Celebrities can help spread a message far and wide through their loyal (and large) fan bases. The Nature is Speaking film series features celebrities such as Julia Roberts, Harrison Ford and Robert Redford taking on the role of different aspects of nature, such as flowers, trees, ocean and ice. Together, the videos have reached more than 50 million people in more than 40 countries, with several films translated into additional languages. Nature is Speaking is Conservation International's invitation to the human race to listen to nature, as nature is essential to every aspect of human life and well-being. The presenter stressed that, while the Nature is Speaking campaign has been successful in its attempts to spread that message to a global audience, the challenge now is how to move people from awareness to action.

25. A representative of York University in Canada presented on the importance of education, public awareness and training in addressing climate change. The United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development<sup>19</sup> helped to guide the world's education, public awareness and training activities towards a more sustainable future. Education for Sustainable Development recognizes the importance of formal, non-formal and informal education. However, non-formal and informal education sometimes receive less priority. Climate change is a global challenge that requires profound societal changes and immediate

<sup>16</sup> See <<https://www.earthhour.org>>.

<sup>17</sup> See <<http://www.benjerry.com/whats-new/save-our-swirled>>.

<sup>18</sup> See <<http://www.conservation.org/nature-is-speaking/Pages/default.aspx>>.

<sup>19</sup> See <<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/education-for-sustainable-development>>.

action. Therefore, it is important to engage representatives of the academic fields of social sciences and humanities, as well as marketing experts and the private sector, in discussing how to communicate effectively on climate change in order to move from individual public awareness campaigns to wider transformational change.

## **2. Working group discussions and conclusions**

26. The participants were divided into four working groups to discuss the following questions:

- (a) How can public awareness efforts be integrated into broader climate change policies and activities?
- (b) What kind of policies, programmes and activities are required to advance from public awareness to behavioural change?
- (c) How can digital communications and social media platforms further raise awareness of climate change?
- (d) How can young people continue to play a role in raising awareness of climate change?

27. A representative of civil society presented the conclusions of the working group on how public awareness efforts can be integrated into broader climate change policies and activities. The group stressed the importance of integrating awareness-raising activities into climate policies and projects. It identified two key challenges: the lack of expertise and resources to design and implement awareness-raising initiatives; and a gap in communicating how local actions can contribute to the implementation of global climate policies. The group recommended communicating on climate change by using specific messages that detail practical actions. It stressed the valuable contribution that civil-society organizations make in raising awareness and suggested fostering cooperation among governments and other stakeholders.

28. A representative of CEE presented the conclusions of the working group on policies, programmes and activities required to advance from public awareness to behavioural change. The group identified the need to measure the impact of climate change communications and awareness-raising projects to evaluate whether or not they have led to behavioural change. It pointed out that communicating on climate change effectively can promote the adoption of changes that lead to a more sustainable lifestyle. However, to increase their effectiveness, messages should be tailored to local circumstances and target audiences. In order to address the challenge of measuring the impact of climate change communications, the group recommended: promoting social research; engaging sociologists, psychologists and marketing experts in discussions on how to effectively communicate on climate change issues; engaging the private sector; translating climate change materials into local languages; promoting peer-to-peer communication; and fostering environmental values at a young age for systemic change.

29. A representative of YOUNGOs presented the conclusions of the working group on raising awareness through digital communications and social media platforms. The group stressed that the use of new information and communication technologies can help to spread climate awareness worldwide. For example, civil-society organizations have successfully used social media both to communicate the need for climate action and to draw attention to online campaigns, events and activities that mobilize climate action by individuals and build support for climate action by business and political leaders. However, the lack of internet and energy access in developing countries was identified as a major challenge by the group. Therefore, it emphasized the importance of using traditional

communication channels, including radio, to reach multiple audiences rather than simply relying on social media to disseminate messages.

30. Representatives of the World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations and the United Nations Development Programme presented the conclusions of the working group on the role of young people in raising awareness of climate change. The group stressed the need to empower young people to contribute to climate action, for example through training, mentoring and leadership programmes. The group also highlighted the importance of fostering young people's participation in the intergovernmental process on climate change, which could be achieved by expanding the youth delegate programme to enhance the participation of youth in their national country delegations. The group recommended the following: building, strengthening and expanding multi-stakeholder partnerships among youth organizations all over the world; sharing best practices from existing youth organizations; providing financial support to youth initiatives; and fostering entrepreneurship, which can enable young people to create their own projects and involve their communities in climate solutions.

## C. Session II: public participation, public access to information and international cooperation thereon

### 1. Opening remarks

31. The Secretary of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)<sup>20</sup> presented lessons learned in implementing the treaty that can be applied to ACE. For example, multiple guidelines on public participation in decision-making have been prepared, which can be used by governments to implement climate action, including the Maastricht recommendations.<sup>21</sup> Effective public participation in climate-related decision-making is important because it affects the rights not only of the present generations but also of future ones. Governments can enhance access to information and public participation through, for example, legislation, institutional arrangements, funding and practical instruments. Building synergies between the national focal points of the Aarhus Convention and ACE could enhance public participation in climate-related decision-making and action at the national level, particularly fostering public involvement in preparing national communications and reports and in implementing the Paris Agreement.

### 2. Presentations on good practices and lessons learned in fostering public participation in climate change policy decision-making and action

32. The session started with a series of presentations focused on good practices and lessons learned in fostering public participation in climate change policy decision-making and action. A representative of Chile presented on public participation in the preparation and implementation of its intended nationally determined contribution (INDC).<sup>22</sup> The process included technical consultations to prepare the mitigation action plan and scenarios among some 200 experts and representatives of civil society, academia and the private and public sectors. The first draft of Chile's INDC was made public in December 2014 and

<sup>20</sup> See <<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/treatytext.html>>.

<sup>21</sup> Available at <[http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/mop5/Documents/Post\\_session\\_docs/ece\\_mp.pp\\_2014\\_2\\_add.2\\_eng.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/mop5/Documents/Post_session_docs/ece_mp.pp_2014_2_add.2_eng.pdf)>.

<sup>22</sup> Available at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Chile/1/INDC%20Chile%20English%20version.pdf>>.

further public consultations and regional workshops were organized to receive feedback on it. The final INDC was approved by Chile's Committee of Ministers for Sustainability and Climate Change and officially submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat on 29 September 2015.<sup>23</sup> The presenter mentioned success factors in the process, including: high-level political commitment; robust baseline information and technical and public consultations; and a solid public participation framework in Chile. He also presented on Chile's efforts to implement Principle 10<sup>24</sup> of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which stipulates that environmental issues are best addressed with the participation of all concerned citizens and places special emphasis on access to information. At the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil in 2012, 10 countries<sup>25</sup> endorsed a declaration to develop a regional instrument for implementing Principle 10 in Latin American and Caribbean countries. The negotiations to discuss the regional instrument bring together 22 countries and are open to the general public. A zero draft was prepared for supporting the negotiations, which are expected to conclude in 2017.

33. A representative of Norway presented on public participation in policymaking in the country. Norway has a long tradition of including civil-society representatives in official delegations to United Nations meetings, including sessions of the General Assembly and decision-making bodies of other United Nations entities. The presenter highlighted the cooperation between the Norwegian delegation to the UNFCCC and two civil-society organizations, namely the Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment and the Norwegian Children and Youth Council. Each of those organizations nominated one youth representative to the Norwegian delegation at COP 21 and CMP 11, where they attended meetings and followed the negotiations. The experience has enriched the national dialogue between government and civil society in Norway.

34. A representative of Mexico presented on the country's legal frameworks for fostering public participation in climate change policymaking and action.<sup>26</sup> Every six years the governmental administration prepares its climate change programme in consultation with members of civil society, the private sector, academia, legislators and multiple stakeholders. The Mexican Government is structured to respond to climate change. For example, Mexico's climate change council includes representatives of civil society, academia and the private sector and has an advisory role. In addition, there is an interministerial commission on climate change, which involves 14 ministries. The commission has working groups, including one on civil-society participation. Each ministry organizes multiple meetings and consultations with representatives of civil society. Mexico's INDC was prepared through consultations with such stakeholders.

35. A representative of Senegal presented on enhancing public participation in adaptation projects. She shared the example of Niodior Island, where climate change effects threaten the ecosystem and the local community, which depends on local natural resources for its livelihood. An adaptation project aims to enhance livelihoods and increase socioecological resilience in the Niodior coastal area. The presenter outlined the importance of the collaboration between an NGO and the community for the implementation of the project, and emphasized the need to train facilitators who could connect stakeholders and enable the full involvement of the local community in the project.

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<sup>23</sup> See <<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/chile-submits-its-climate-action-plan-ahead-of-2015-paris-agreement/>>.

<sup>24</sup> See <<http://www.unep.org/documents.multilingual/default.asp?documentid=78&articleid=1163>>.

<sup>25</sup> Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

<sup>26</sup> See <[http://www.inecc.gob.mx/descargas/2012\\_lgcc.pdf](http://www.inecc.gob.mx/descargas/2012_lgcc.pdf)>.

36. A representative of the DAMPA<sup>27</sup> federation presented on the participation of women in the design, planning and implementation of adaptation and capacity-building climate actions. DAMPA is a grass-roots, women-led organization based in the Philippines that includes 237 local member organizations. DAMPA helps to build the resilience of rural and urban communities through livelihood programmes, savings and cooperatives, health programmes, education, farming, home repair and waste management. The importance of cooperation with local authorities and the need to empower them was emphasized.

37. A representative of Climate Action Network (CAN)<sup>28</sup> presented on public participation in climate-related policies. CAN is a global network of about 1,000 NGOs. Examples of how CAN worked successfully with national and subregional authorities on climate change policy in Sri Lanka, Nepal and India were provided, with emphasis on the achievement of acknowledgement of NGOs in the national adaptation plans of Nepal and Sri Lanka. The participation of civil-society organizations and citizens provides legitimacy and effectiveness in the implementation of public policies. CAN has collaborated with governments in the preparation of INDCs, national adaptation plans and climate change projects. Owing to CAN's success in enhancing public participation in climate-related policymaking, the representative suggested exchanging good practices on how public participation principles can be applied across all climate change areas, not just policy.

38. The Lord Mayor of the City of Bonn, Germany, delivered a keynote address on empowering citizens to take climate action. He explained that he is actively involved in public participation, both as Mayor of Bonn and as a member of the global executive committee of Local Governments for Sustainability, a global network of over 1,500 cities, towns and regions.<sup>29</sup> He presented three concrete examples of how Bonn is addressing climate change: a website that provides frequent updates on Bonn's water levels and early-warning flood risks; a cycling initiative that encourages citizens to ride bicycles and log their kilometres cycled on a web platform; and a programme that enables school children to become Bonn climate ambassadors.<sup>30</sup> Cities around the world are implementing climate solutions. Carbonn<sup>31</sup> is the world's leading registry of climate mitigation and adaptation in cities, towns and regions. A total of 608 jurisdictions in 62 countries have collected 1,293 mitigation commitments and 6,181 mitigation and adaptation actions. It has reported emission reductions of 2.2 Gt carbon dioxide per year. The Mayor concluded that the recognition of non-Party stakeholders in the Paris Agreement was a positive step forward as subnational and local governments play an important role in implementing the climate agenda.

### **3. Working group discussions and conclusions**

39. The participants divided into four working groups to discuss the following:

- (a) What tools and approaches could be used to further involve stakeholders, including marginalized and minority groups, in climate policymaking?
- (b) What innovative approaches could be used to enhance public participation in the development and implementation of national communications and nationally determined contributions (NDCs)?
- (c) How could citizens be empowered to participate in implementing climate mitigation and adaptation activities?

<sup>27</sup> “Dampa” is Tagalog for a poor person’s home.

<sup>28</sup> See <<http://www.climatenetwork.org>>.

<sup>29</sup> See <<http://www.iclei.org>>.

<sup>30</sup> See <[http://www.bonner-klimabotschafter.de](http://www.bonner-klimabotschafter.de/)>.

<sup>31</sup> See <<http://carbonn.org>>.

(d) How could multi-stakeholder partnerships be carried out and/or enhanced to improve public participation in implementing climate actions?

40. A representative of Citizens' Climate Engagement Network presented the conclusions of the working group on tools and approaches to involve stakeholders in climate policymaking. The group stressed that some countries have legal frameworks and institutional arrangements in place to foster public engagement. In addition, it recommended that inputs received from citizens and civil-society organizations following a government consultation be reflected in final decisions. The group also raised concerns about how governments inform and notify people of opportunities to participate. It stressed the importance of using channels appropriate to the local circumstances, which could include making information available in local languages and targeting the places where people gather.

41. A representative of Missions Publiques France presented the conclusions of the working group on innovative approaches to enhancing public participation in the development and implementation of national communications and NDCs. The group highlighted that there is a great deal of experience with public participation in relation to climate change issues. In addition, methodologies, resources and tools have been designed for organizing public consultations. The group reported that it is important to select the methodologies according to the objectives of the consultation and the stakeholders involved. Enhancing inclusive and deliberative participation in all climate-related processes is fundamental, as is involving subregional and local authorities in the implementation of climate action. The group pointed out that the lessons learned from other processes could be used for enhancing public participation in the implementation of NDCs. It suggested using social media as a tool for public consultation and stakeholder participation.

42. A representative of YOUNGOs presented the conclusions of the working group on strengthening citizen participation in implementing climate mitigation and adaptation activities. The group pointed out the need for a bottom-up approach, which empowers civil-society organizations and citizens to take climate action. It identified the following challenges: lack of awareness and knowledge; insufficient funding; and lack of involvement of women and elderly people in implementing climate mitigation and adaptation activities. The group recommended enhancing the participation of indigenous peoples, women, farmers, local communities, the elderly and young people in adaptation and mitigation projects. Education and training based on communities' needs are required. Further recommendations included: establishing partnerships with civil society; organizing regional workshops; showcasing how citizens can reduce their carbon footprint and increase resilience; exchanging good practices to learn from each other; creating spaces for dialogue; and providing access to financial resources.

43. A representative of CEE presented the conclusions of the working group on multi-stakeholder partnerships for implementing climate action. The group highlighted the importance of enhancing intersectoral, multi-stakeholder and intergenerational participation in climate change. It emphasized that governments alone cannot implement the climate agenda. Therefore, non-Party stakeholders must continue to play an important role in order to scale up action. Establishing partnerships between national, subregional and local authorities, as well as among multiple stakeholders, was recommended. Public-private partnerships can help mobilize resources, create mutual trust and allow for new cooperation and synergies. The group recommended organizing public dialogues, involving key stakeholders and facilitating access to information related to climate change.

#### **4. Presentations on good practices and lessons learned in fostering public access to information in climate change policy decision-making and action**

44. A representative of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Climate Action presented on access to information and communication platforms, focusing on Climate-ADAPT, the European climate adaptation platform.<sup>32</sup> Climate-ADAPT relies on means such as guidance tools, indicators, publications and reports to provide decision makers with information on adaptation issues in Europe. The Adaptation Support Tool<sup>33</sup> assists users in developing climate change adaptation strategies by providing a compendium of methods and tools to evaluate impacts of and vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The information on the platform is classified by sector, country and city or there is transnational information for regions facing similar climate vulnerabilities. Both the amount of data shared and the diversity in terms of type of information are important. The presenter concluded by inviting policymakers from Europe and beyond to visit Climate-ADAPT online and noted that the information available can be used in other countries and contexts.

45. A representative of the UNFCCC secretariat presented on the Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) portal.<sup>34</sup> The portal gathers commitments to address climate change by companies, cities, subnational regions, investors and civil-society organizations. It was launched by the Peruvian Presidency at COP 20 as part of the Lima–Paris Action Agenda<sup>35</sup> in 2014 and was a central tool to build momentum for and support the adoption of the Paris Agreement. The NAZCA portal has gathered commitments from more than a third of the world's largest 2,000 companies, accounting for USD 32.5 trillion in revenue. Some 150 registered companies and investors have committed to adopting science-based reduction targets and 57 companies and investors have committed to using 100 per cent renewable electricity. In conclusion the presenter stressed the importance of publicly communicating success stories on the NAZCA portal as an incentive for other non-Party stakeholders to mobilize broader engagement and accelerate ambition.

46. A representative of Korea Environment Corporation (KECO)<sup>36</sup> presented on public access to information regarding the carbon footprint of its products. KECO, a government-affiliated body, launched a climate change portal in 2007 to increase public awareness of climate change. The portal includes educational content such as cartoons, movies and games. The number of visitors accessing the content rose from 60,000 in 2007 to 460,000 in 2015. KECO has classified 1,965 of its products according to the greenhouse gas emissions generated in their entire life cycle, including production, transportation, distribution and usage to the end of product life. KECO's carbon footprint certification, which cooperated with the Asia Carbon Footprint Network,<sup>37</sup> highlights low-carbon products and carbon-neutral products.

#### **D. Closure of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment**

47. The SBI Chair emphasized in his closing remarks that raising awareness and fostering public participation in climate change policymaking is fundamental not only for the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement but also for the survival of many countries and communities. He pointed out the need for the public to fully understand climate change in order to be able to move negotiations forward and undertake action on

<sup>32</sup> See <<http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu>>.

<sup>33</sup> Available at <<http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/knowledge/tools/adaptation-support-tool>>.

<sup>34</sup> <<http://climateaction.unfccc.int>>.

<sup>35</sup> See <<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/lpaa>>.

<sup>36</sup> See <<https://www.keco.or.kr/en/main/index.do>>.

the ground. He invited the participants to get involved in the 5<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment, which will take place in 2017 and focus on climate change education and training and international cooperation thereon. He concluded by thanking all participants for their contributions.

48. Ms. Christiana Figueres, UNFCCC Executive Secretary, closed the Dialogue by stressing that its success depends on whether or not the participants are able to implement ideas shared and lessons learned when they are back in their home countries. Individuals can contribute to tackling climate change in three ways: (1) endeavour to change their own behaviour and encourage those they can influence directly; (2) demand low-carbon products as consumers; and (3) use their power as a voter to influence political decisions. The Paris Agreement was a historic achievement, but it is time to take that vision and make it a reality. According to Ms. Figueres, the next five years are crucial to making a fundamental change in the global economic system as well as in individual behaviour. She concluded by underscoring the urgency of action and encouraging the participants to implement solutions on the ground.

#### **IV. Next steps**

49. Parties and other stakeholders may wish to use the information contained in this report when planning, designing and implementing activities related to public awareness, public participation and public access to information in relation to climate change and international cooperation on those matters.

## Annex

### Agenda for the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment

[English only]

<b>Opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment</b> <b>Session I: public awareness and international cooperation thereon</b> Wednesday, 18 May 2016, 3–6 p.m. – room: Santiago de Chile	
3–3.20 p.m.	<b>Opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment</b> <b>Welcoming remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow</b>, Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and Chair of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Nick Nuttall</b>, UNFCCC secretariat</li> </ul> <b>Outline and objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Marie Jaudet</b>, facilitator of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue and ACE national focal point for France</li> </ul> <b>Videos by the winners of the 2015 Global Youth Video Competition</b>
<b>Keynote address</b>	
3.20–3.40 p.m.	“Communicating climate change: opportunities for transformational change”, <b>Mr. Bertrand Piccard</b> , Solar Impulse
<b>Presentations on good practices and lessons learned regarding public awareness and international cooperation thereon</b>	
3.40–5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The World Expo Milano 2015: a positive experience of public awareness of climate change”, <b>Ms. Fiona May</b>, permanent representative of the Italian National Olympic Committee, and <b>Ms. Gloria Zavatta</b>, World Expo Milano 2015</li> <li>• “Moving towards climate-neutral development: awareness-raising activities in Costa Rica”, <b>Ms. Andrea Meza</b>, Costa Rica</li> <li>• “Science Express Climate Action: a mobile train exhibition on climate change travelling through India”, <b>Mr. Kartikeya V. Sarabhai</b>, Centre for Environment Education</li> <li>• “Experiences of mass media communicating climate change in Africa”, <b>Mr. Florent Kossiv</b></li> </ul>

	<p><b>Tiassou</b>, Green Radio World/Deutsche Welle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Youth as agents of change: empowering, connecting and raising awareness of the new generations”, <b>Mr. Max van Deursen</b>, youth non-governmental organizations</li> <li>“Fiat Lux: Illuminating Our Common Home”, <b>Mr. Max T. Edkins</b>, Connect4Climate, World Bank Group</li> <li>“Lights out to change climate change: the global campaign Earth Hour”, <b>Ms. Mandy Jean Woods</b>, World Wide Fund for Nature International Global Climate and Energy Initiative</li> <li>“Save our Swirled campaign: business promoting climate action”, <b>Mr. Timm Duffner</b>, Ben &amp; Jerry’s</li> <li>“Climate change celebrities: raising awareness through the use of celebrities in social media campaigns”, <b>Ms. Shyla Raghav</b>, Conservation International</li> <li>“United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development: lessons learned and key recommendations for raising public awareness”, <b>Mr. Charles Hopkins</b>, York University in Canada</li> </ul> <p>Question and answer session</p>
<b>Working groups</b>	
5–5.30 p.m.	<p><b>Working group discussions on key topics related to public awareness and international cooperation thereon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can public awareness efforts be integrated into broader climate change policies and activities? facilitated by <b>Mr. Luis Davila</b>, UNFCCC secretariat</li> <li>What kind of policies, programmes and activities are required to advance from public awareness to behavioural change? facilitated by <b>Mr. Sarabhai</b> and <b>Mr. Hopkins</b></li> <li>How could digital communications and social media platforms further raise awareness on climate change? facilitated by <b>Ms. Adriana Valenzuela</b>, UNFCCC secretariat, and <b>Mr. Edkins</b></li> <li>How can young people continue to play a role in raising awareness about climate change? facilitated by <b>Ms. Angelica Shamerina</b>, United Nations Development Programme/Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, and <b>Mr. Romulo Dantas</b>, World Alliance of Young Men’s Christian Associations</li> </ul>
<b>Conclusions of the working groups</b>	
5.30–5.45 p.m.	Presentation of the working groups’ conclusions and moderated dialogue among participants
<b>Closing remarks</b>	

5.45–6 p.m.	Closing remarks presented by the facilitator
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<b>Session II: public participation, public access to information and international cooperation thereon</b>	
Thursday, 19 May 2016, 3–6 p.m. – room: Santiago de Chile	
3–3.05 p.m.	Outline and objectives presented by the facilitator
<b>Opening remarks</b>	
3.05–3.15 p.m.	“Aarhus Convention: an effective instrument to promote access to information and public participation in environmental matters”, <b>Ms. Ella Behlyarova</b> , Secretary of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
<b>Presentations on good practices and lessons learned in fostering public participation in climate change policy decision-making and action</b>	
3.15–4 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Public participation in the preparation and implementation of nationally determined contributions”, <b>Mr. Felipe Osse</b> and <b>Mr. Julio Cordano Sagredo</b>, Chile</li> <li>• “Public participation in climate change action”, <b>Mr. Christoffer Grønstad</b>, Norway</li> <li>• “Legal frameworks for fostering public participation in climate change policymaking and action”, <b>Mr. Alejandro Rivera Becerra</b>, Mexico</li> <li>• “Building resilience and enhancing public participation in adaptation projects”, <b>Ms. Penda Kante-Thiam</b>, Senegal</li> <li>• “Participation of women in the design, planning and implementation of adaptation and capacity-building climate actions”, <b>Ms. Josephine Castillo</b>, DAMPA federation, Philippines</li> <li>• “Citizen participation in climate action: partnerships and networks”, <b>Mr. Anoop Poonia</b>, Climate Action Network, South Asia</li> </ul> <p>Question and answer session</p>
<b>Keynote address</b>	
4–4.10 p.m.	“Empowering communities, connecting and mobilizing climate action”, <b>Mr. Ashok-Alexander Sridharan</b> , Lord Mayor of the City of Bonn, Germany
<b>Working groups</b>	
4.10–4.40 p.m.	<b>Working group discussions on key topics related to public participation and</b>



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	<p><b>international cooperation thereon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What tools and approaches could be used to further involve stakeholders, including marginalized and minority groups, in climate policymaking? facilitated by <b>Ms. Behlyarova</b></li><li>• What innovative approaches could be used to enhance public participation in the development and implementation of national communications and nationally determined contributions? facilitated by <b>Mr. Davila</b></li><li>• How to strengthen and empower citizens to participate in implementing climate mitigation and adaptation activities? facilitated by <b>Ms. Valenzuela</b> and <b>Ms. Shamerina</b></li><li>• How to carry out and/or enhance multi-stakeholder partnerships to improve public participation in implementing climate actions? facilitated by <b>Mr. Ian Ponce</b>, UNFCCC secretariat</li></ul>
<b>Conclusions of the working groups</b>	
4.40–4.55 p.m.	Presentation of the working groups' conclusions and moderated dialogue among participants
<b>Presentations on good practices and lessons learned in fostering public access to information in climate change policy decision-making and action</b>	
4.55–5.15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Access to information and communication platforms: Climate-ADAPT, the European climate adaptation platform”, <b>Ms. Alessandra Sgobbi</b>, European Commission’s Directorate-General for Climate Action</li><li>• “Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action: NAZCA portal”, <b>Mr. Ponce</b></li><li>• “Public access to information on the carbon content and carbon footprints of products”, <b>Mr. Beomwoong Park</b>, Korea Environment Corporation</li></ul> <p>Question and answer session</p>
<b>Closure of the 4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment</b>	
5.50–6 p.m.	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ms. Marie Jaudet</b></li><li>• <b>Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow</b></li><li>• <b>Ms. Christiana Figueres</b>, UNFCCC Executive Secretary</li></ul> <p>Group photo</p>